



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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HUNDREDS RALLY FOR GOVERNOR'S HEALTHY INDIANA PLAN

INDIANAPOLIS – Governor Mitch Daniels today addressed hundreds of Hoosiers who rallied in the Statehouse today in support of the Governor's Healthy Indiana Plan (HIP) currently being considered by the Legislature. Many attending the rally wore HIP buttons and carried hand-made signs showing their support.

Governor Daniels thanked those attending and encouraged them to continue communicating their support for the Healthy Indiana Plan to their Legislators. He emphasized that now is the time for action to fully fund smoking cessation programs, provide immunizations for children and offer health insurance for thousands of uninsured Hoosiers. He again cited the fact that raising the cigarette tax lowers the rate of youth and adult smoking.

Also addressing the supporters were

- **Beth Kohli** from Hamilton who is a former smoker who quit smoking when the last increase in the cigarette was enacted
- **Dr. Deborah McMahan**, Allen County Health Commissioner
- **Shelley Dunham** from Anderson where she is a senior at Highland High School and an active advocate for tobacco control
- **Chase Sorrells** from Valparaiso and a student at Purdue University
- **Dr. Sabrina Williams**, Medical Director at Citizens Health Center in Indianapolis
- **Shelley Ross** from Indianapolis who is currently working but does not have health insurance

Information about childhood immunizations, smoking cessation and the Governor's Healthy Indiana Plan was available at displays in the atrium. Attendees were invited to sign two large postcards that will be delivered to Speaker of the House Pat Bauer and Senate President Pro Tempore David Long.

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The following organizations participated in the Rally:

American Lung Association
Indiana Association of Insurance and Financial Advisors, Inc.
Campaign for Tobacco Free Kids
Family Service Council of Indiana
Indiana Immunization Coalition
Super Shot, Inc.
Indiana Rural Health Association
Indiana State Association of Health Underwriters
Cardinal Health System
Covering Kids and Families
Clarian Health
Indiana Primary Health Care Association
Anthem
Indiana Hospital and Health Association
Minority Health Coalition
Indiana Academy of Family Physicians
Indiana Chapter of the American College of Cardiology
Indiana Osteopathic Association
American Cancer Society
American Heart Association
Indiana State Department of Health
Indiana Department of Insurance
Indiana Family and Social Services Administration

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